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MORTAL KOMBAT



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BLOOD & THUNDER



LIKE TWIGGS IN A HURRICANE,
THEY WERE BLOWN AWAY BY
THE POWER OF THE
GOD OF THUNDER.

USING ALL HIS POWER,
RAYDEN CALLED UP THE
WINDS AND—FOR A SPLIT
SECOND—OPENED THE
PORTAL BETWEEN
EARTH AND OUTWORLD.

NOW THEY ARE
SCATTERED
ACROSS THE VAST
WASTELAND RULED
BY THE EMPEROR
SHAO KAHN.

THEY'VE LOST
THEIR WAY,
BUT THEY HAVE
NOT LOST
THEIR HOPE.

FOR THEY ARE THE
WORLD'S GREATEST
WARRIORS, AND
THEY WERE PREPARED
TO ENTER
MORTAL KOMBAT.

THEY WERE
PREPARED FOR
ANYTHING.



MORTAL KOMBAT®

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IN ONE OF THE
EMPTY PLAINS
SO PREVALENT ON
OUTWORLD...

WE'RE ON
THE WASTELAND,
DUE EAST OF THE
LIVING
FOREST.

THE
LIN KUEI
HAVE EXTENSIVE
MAPS OF THIS
LAND.

WE HAVE
NO NEED FOR
YOUR CLAN'S
CARTOGRAPHY,
SUB-ZERO...

...FOR
RAYDEN HAS
WALKED THIS PATH
HUNDRETS OF TIMES.

LOOK--
ANOTHER HAS
WALKED THIS WAY
IN THE PAST
HOUR.

IT
APPEARS TO BE
THE TRACKS OF
HYDRO.

WHY WOULD
SHANG
TSUNG SHOW
SUCH INTEREST
IN THIS
GROUP?

WE
SHOULD...
URK... URK...



WHAT IS IT? ARE YOU HURT?

IT... IT IS... A SIGN...

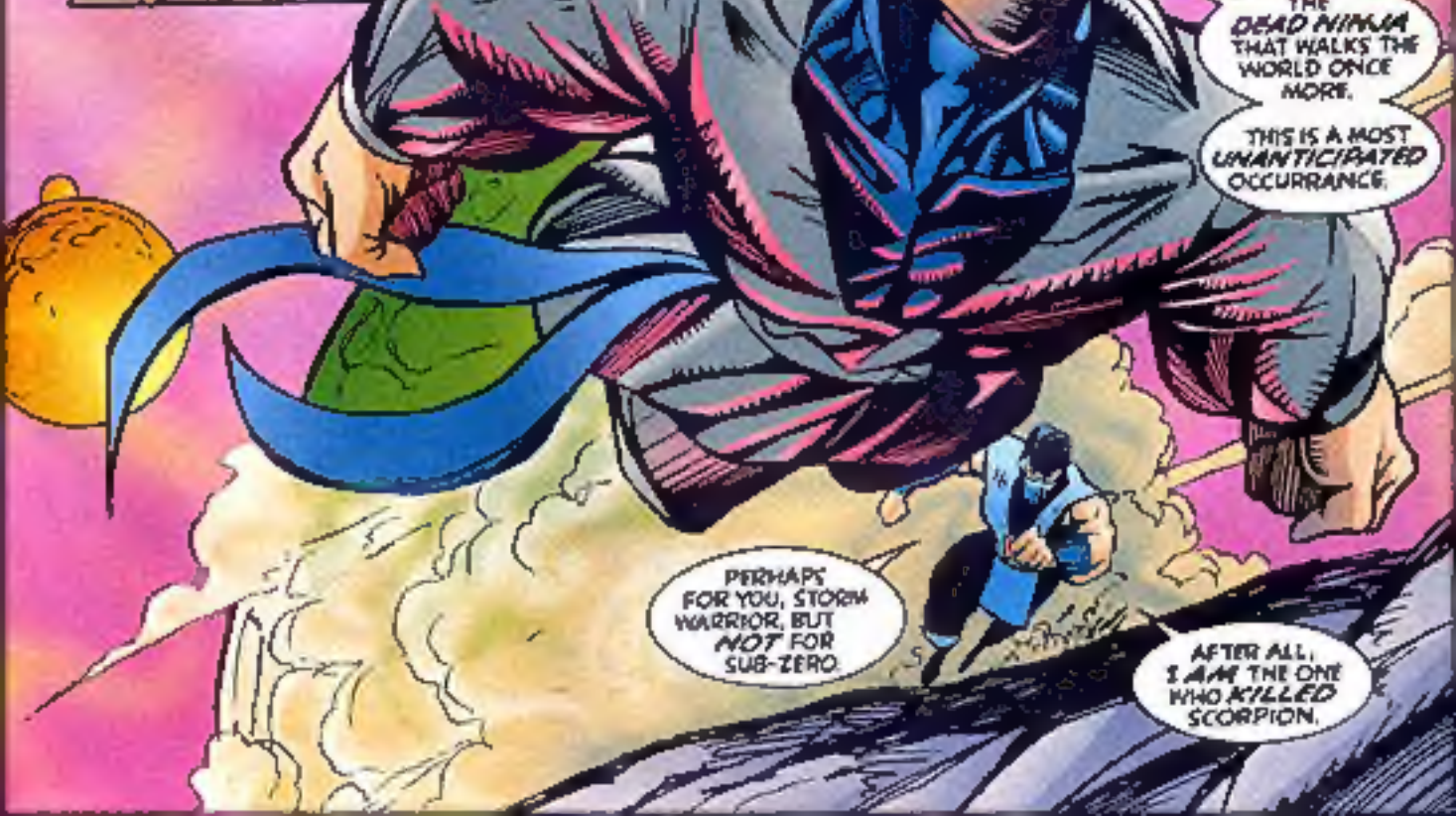


A SIGN... THAT HE... IS HERE...



WHO? RAYDEN SENSES NO ONE...

THE SPECTRAL ONE. HE WHO CALLS HIMSELF SCORPION.



THE DEAD NINJA THAT WALKS THE WORLD ONCE MORE.

THIS IS A MOST UNANTICIPATED OCCURRENCE.

PERHAPS FOR YOU, STORM WARRIOR, BUT NOT FOR SUB-ZERO.

AFTER ALL, I AM THE ONE WHO KILLED SCORPION.

NOT FAR AWAY...

LET ME
HEAR YOU BEE,
YOUNG WARRIOR.
PERHAPS SCORPION
WILL SHOW MERCY...
FOR ONCE!

I DO
NOT FEAR YOU,
SHOUL DO YOUR
WORST.

YOU DO
NOT DESERVE
MY WORST,
NINJA. ONLY A
FRACTION
OF IT.

YOU MAY
CHANGE YOUR VIEW,
ONCE YOU HAVE
FELT THE POWER
OF HYDRO.

THE LIN KUEI WARRIOR
SEES THE SPIKE
DARTING THROUGH
THE WAVES...

...AAAAARRRGHHH...

...HE SEES IT, BUT HE DOES
NOT HAVE TIME TO ACT.

THE
LIN-KUEL...DO
NOT...FEAR...
DEATH.

...NO FEAR...

YOU
WOULD IF
YOU WERE
WISE.

TAKE IT
FROM ONE
WITH
FIRST-HAND
KNOWLEDGE

PREPARE
FOR YOUR
FINAL JOURNEY,
YOUNG NINJA.

...NO...

TAKE IT
FROM
SCORPION



ONE BY
ONE I SHALL
DESTROY
THE LIN KUEI
CLAN.

I SHALL
FINISH HIS
FRIENDS
AND HIS
FAMILY.

AND THEN
I SHALL EXACT
MY REVENGE
ON SUB-ZERO
HIMSELF.



I SHALL...
AIIIEEEEE



WHO
DARES
STRIKE
SCORPION?



RAYDEN
DARES. DEAD
ONE.



NO.
THUNDER GOD
THIS IS NOT
YOUR FIGHT.

HE WISHES
SUB-ZERO TO
FEAR HIM,
BUT I DO
NOT.

I WILL
FIGHT YOU,
SCORPION, BUT
I SHALL NO LONGER
FEAR YOU.

FOR YOU
ARE NOTHING
BUT A SPIRIT,
AND MY FEAR
MAKES YOU
STRONGER.

IT IS
TRUE THAT,
SHOULD I LET
YOU, YOU COULD
DESTROY
ME.

...UP...

FOOSSSHHH

AND
WHEN YOU
BECOME
SOLID...

BUT FOR
YOU TO KILL
ME, YOU WILL
FIRST HAVE
TO BECOME
SOLID.

...THEN
YOU CAN BE
BROKEN.

KEEESSSHHH

IMPRESSIVE, SUB-ZERO. YOU HAVE CONQUERED YOUR FEAR OF ME.

UNFORTUNATELY, YOU HAVE NOT CONQUERED ME.

AND THERE WILL BE ANOTHER SAY.

HAUNT ME FOR THE REST OF MY DAYS IF YOU WISH, GHOUL.

BUT YOU SHALL ALWAYS FIND SUB-ZERO READY FOR YOU.

BEGONE, SPIRIT. FOR SUB-ZERO IS NOW UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE GOD OF THUNDER.

I ENDED YOUR LIFE, SCORPION. IF NEED BE, I SHALL END YOUR AFTERLIFE.

PERHAPS I UNDERESTIMATED YOU, NINJA.

TO EXACT MY REVENGE, I MAY NEED MORE POWER...

...AND SCORPION KNOWS JUST WHERE TO FIND IT.

ON A MYSTERIOUS ISLAND THAT SHOWS UP ON NO MAP EVER DRAWN...

...THE MORTAL KOMBAT TOURNAMENT HAS BEEN HALTED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY.

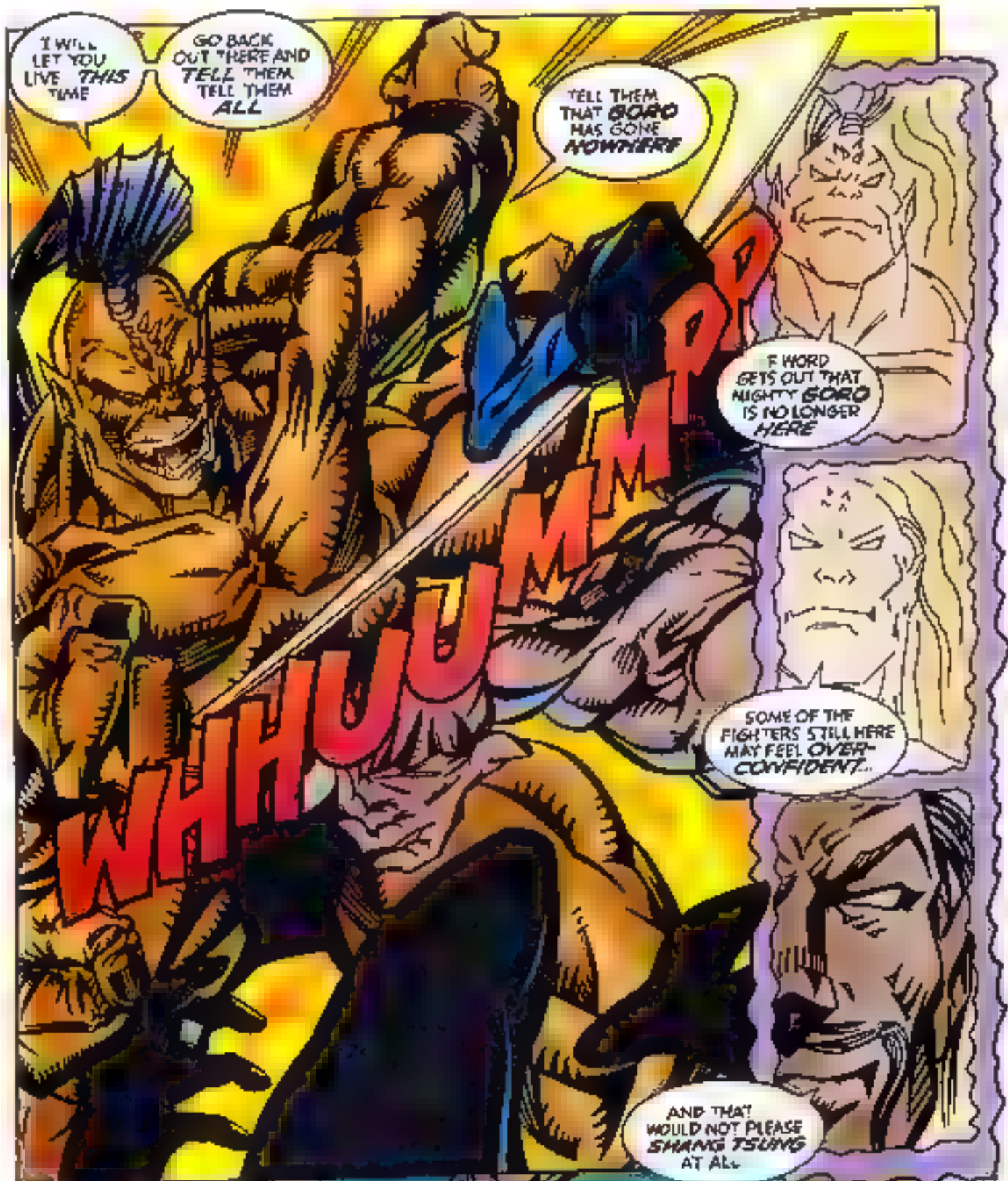
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA? STEALING FROM SHANG TSUNG?

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? GORO HAS DISAPPEARED.

IS THAT SO, WORM?

IS THAT WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ON THE ISLAND?

THAT THE PRINCE OF RAIN NO LONGER RESIDES HERE?



I WILL
LET YOU
LIVE **THIS**
TIME

GO BACK
OUT THERE AND
TELL THEM
TELL THEM
ALL

TELL THEM
THAT **GORO**
HAS GONE
NOWHERE

IF WORD
GETS OUT THAT
MIGHTY **GORO**
IS NO LONGER
HERE

SOME OF THE
FIGHTERS STILL HERE
MAY FEEL **OVER-
CONFIDENT...**

AND THAT
WOULD NOT PLEASE
SHANG TSUNG
AT ALL

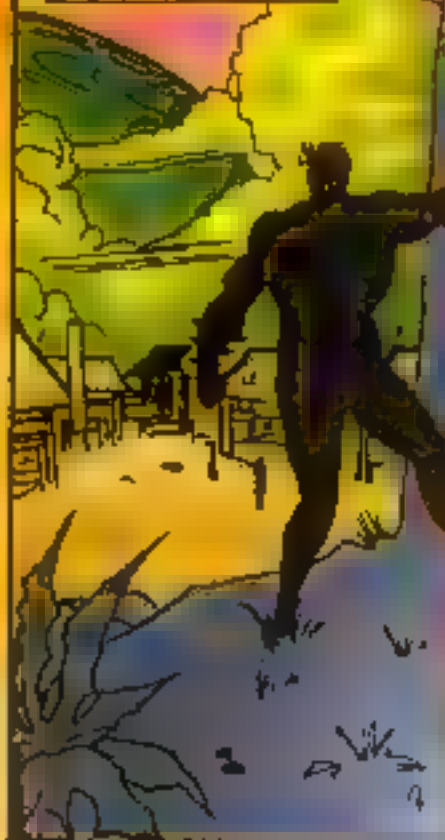
IT IS
TROUBLESOME, LOSING
THE **PRISONERS** AND
THE **TAO TE ZHAN**. NOT
TO MENTION THE STRANGE
DISAPPEARANCE
OF MY FAITHFUL
SERVANT

BUT
I MUST BE
PATIENT I ALREADY
HAVE **OTHERS**
SEARCHING FOR
GORO. AND THEY
SHALL NOT FAIL
ME

FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE
THE NEW MINI-SERIES
GORO: PRINCE OF PAIN,
ON SALE NOW.

MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER
REGION OF OUTWORLD

A LONE FIGURE
APPROACHES A
PEACEFUL LOOKING
VILLAGE



BOY THIS
LOOKS LIKE SOME
THING FROM THE
LAND THAT TIME
FORGOT.

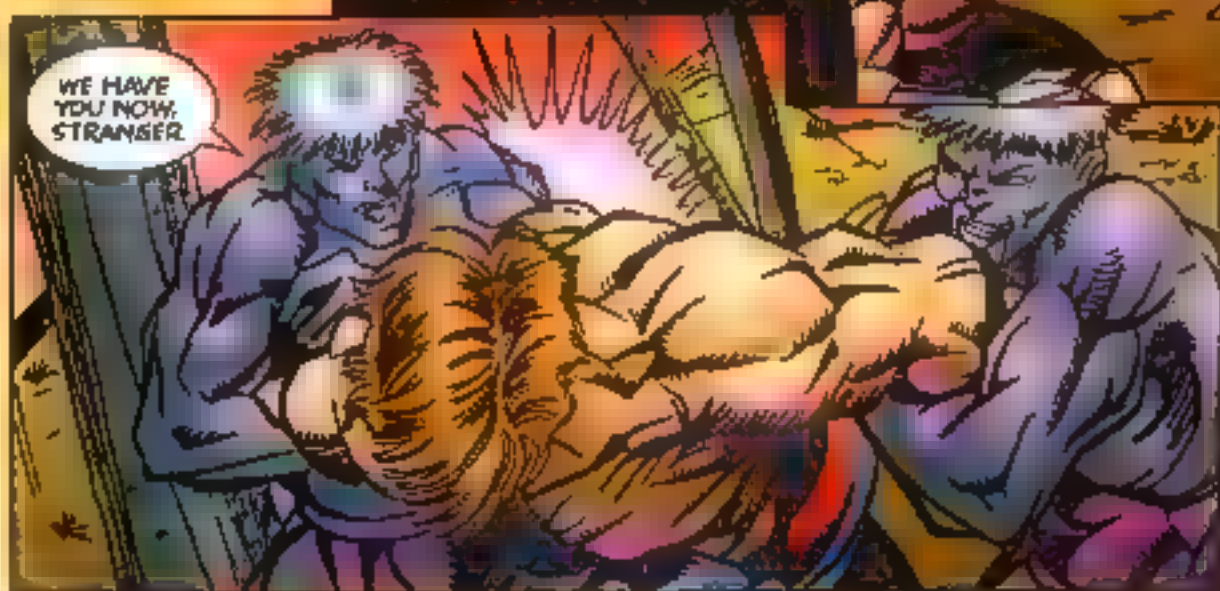
WELL,
PEOPLE HERE
ARE ABOUT TO
GET A
SPECIAL
TREAT

THE
CHANCE TO
MEET
JOHNNY
CAGE IN
PERSON.

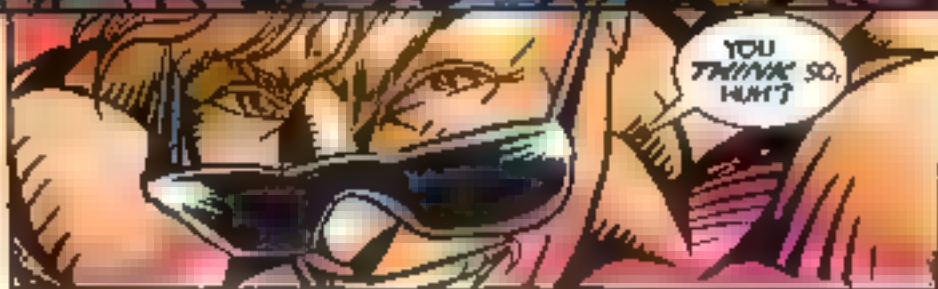


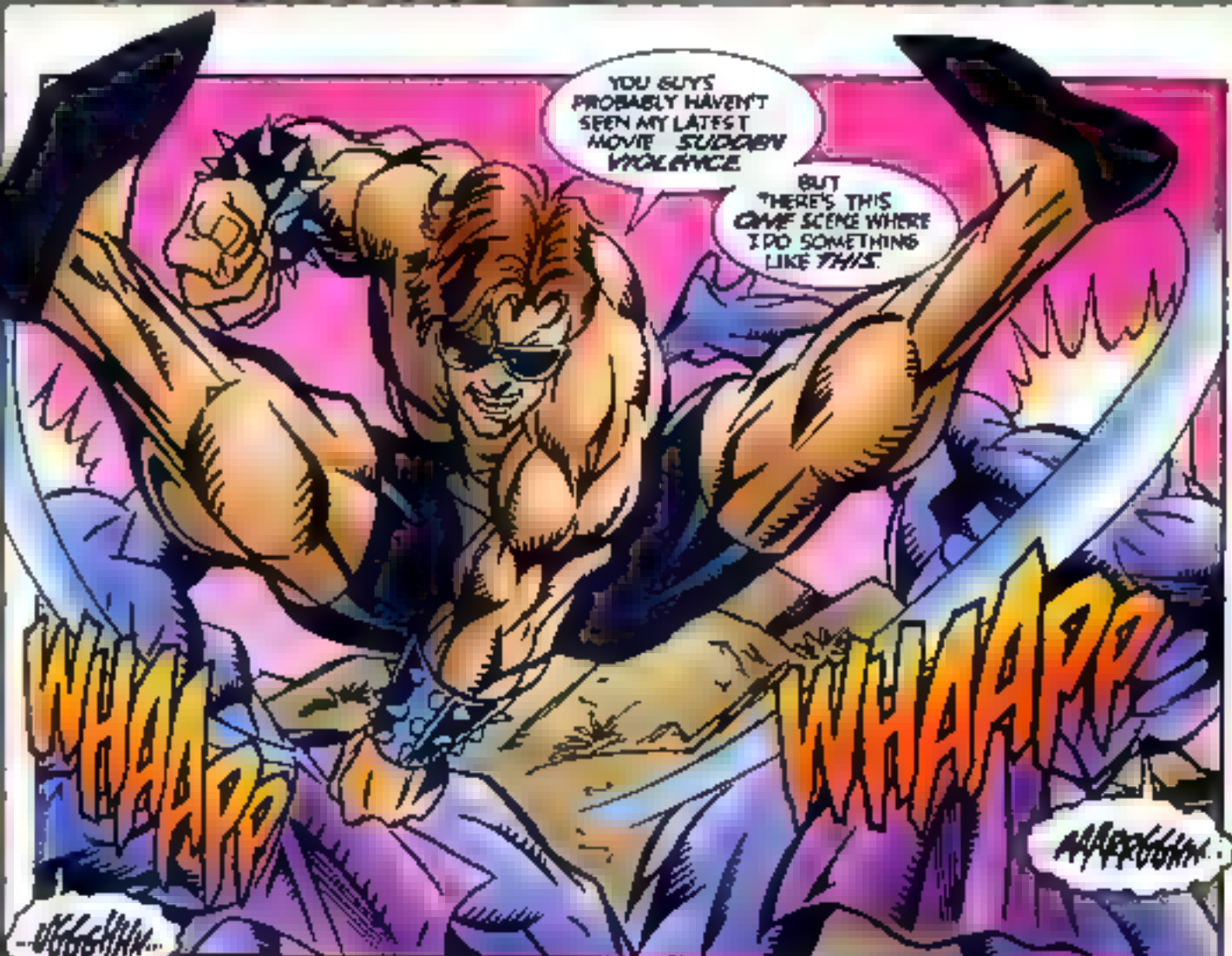
QUICK!
TAKE
HIM!

WE HAVE
YOU NOW,
STRANGER.



YOU
THINK SO,
HUNT?





YOU GUYS
PROBABLY HAVEN'T
SEEN MY LATEST
MOVIE SUDDEN
VIOLENCE.

BUT
THERE'S THIS
ONE SCENE WHERE
I DO SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.

WHAAAPP

WHAAAPP

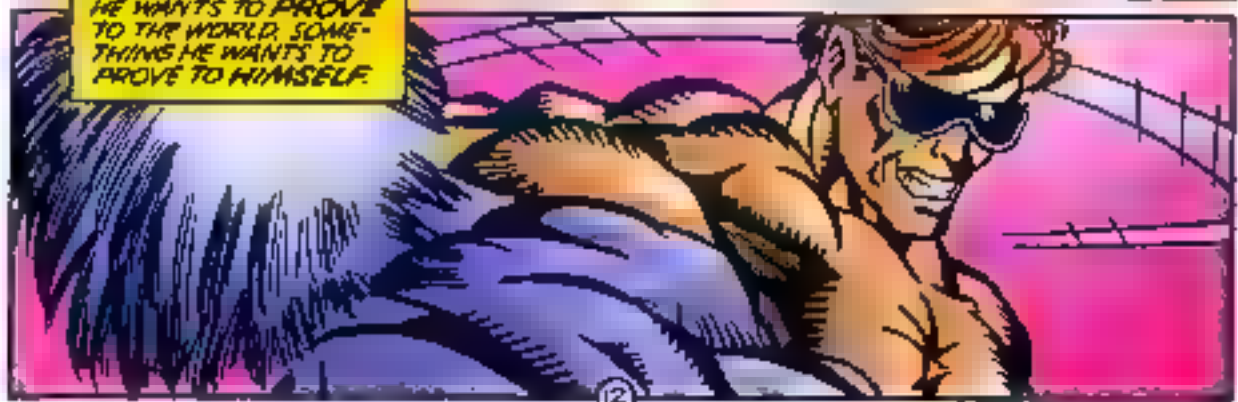
...UGGGHH...

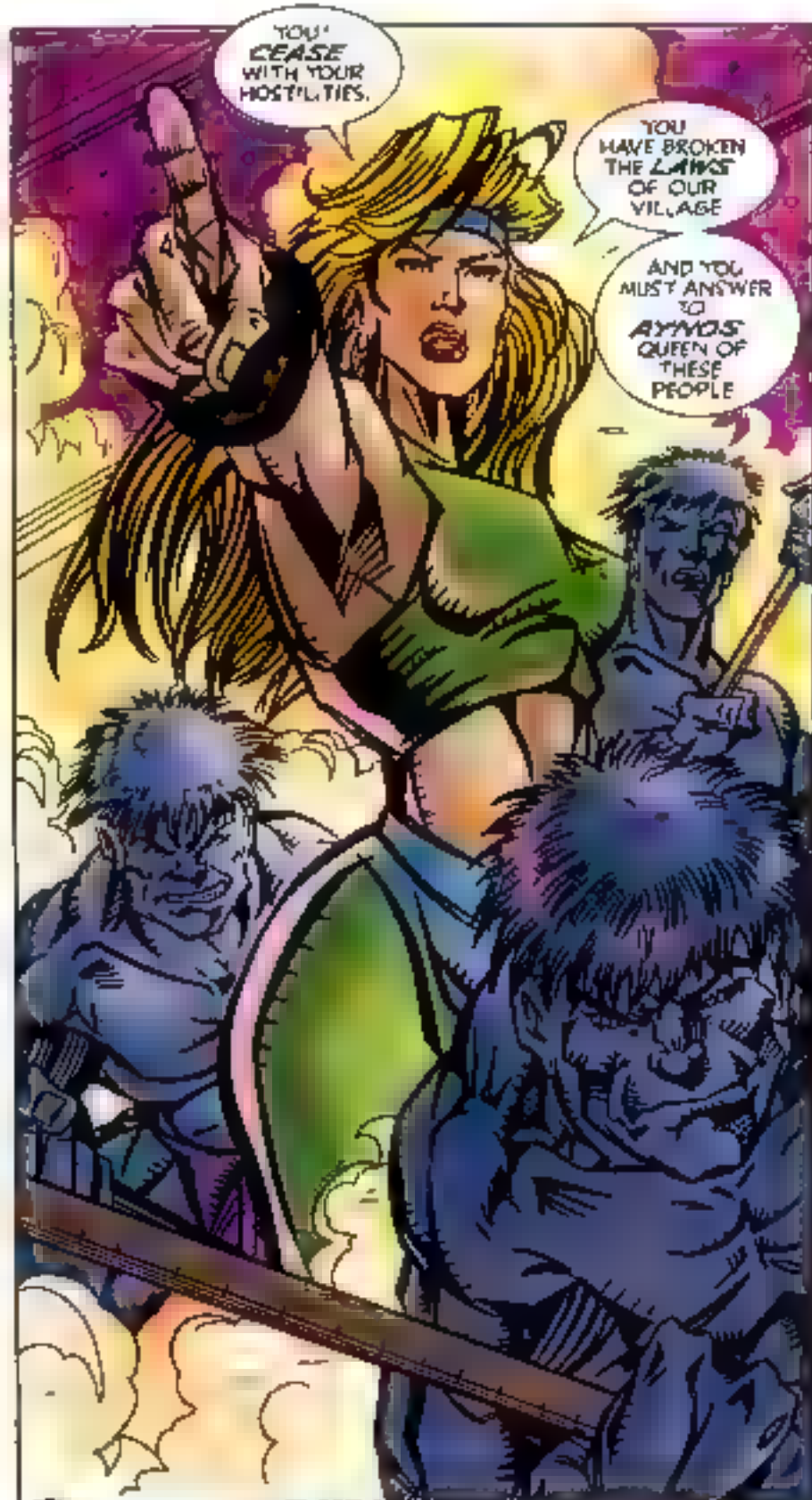
...UGGGHH...

ALL HIS CAREER, NO
ONE HAS TAKEN HIM
SERIOUSLY AS A
FIGHTER THAT'S WHY HE
WANTED TO PARTICIPATE
IN MORTAL KOMBAT



HE'S GOT SOMETHING
HE WANTS TO PROVE
TO THE WORLD. SOME-
THING HE WANTS TO
PROVE TO HIMSELF.





YOU
CEASE
WITH YOUR
HOSTILITIES.

YOU
HAVE BROKEN
THE LAWS
OF OUR
VILLAGE

AND YOU
MUST ANSWER
TO
AYMOS
QUEEN OF
THESE PEOPLE



SONYA
BABY I WAS
HOPING
I'D FIND
SOMEBODY
I KNEW



YOU'RE
LOOKING FINE
AS USUAL



YOU
FOOL!

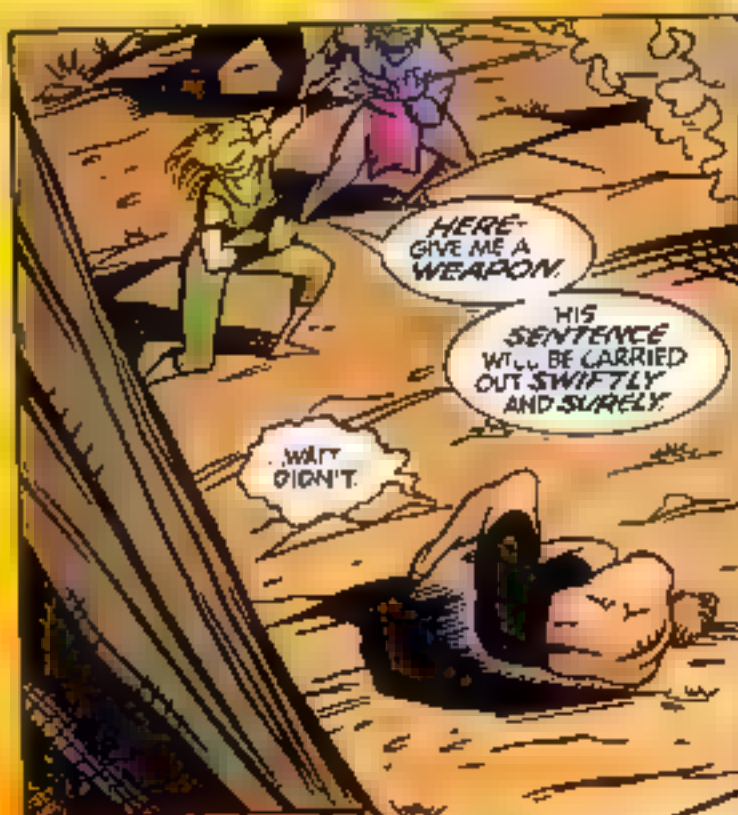
NO
ONE GAVE
YOU LEAVE TO
TOUCH QUEEN
AYMOS



URRRRRHHH

THOOOMNPPPP

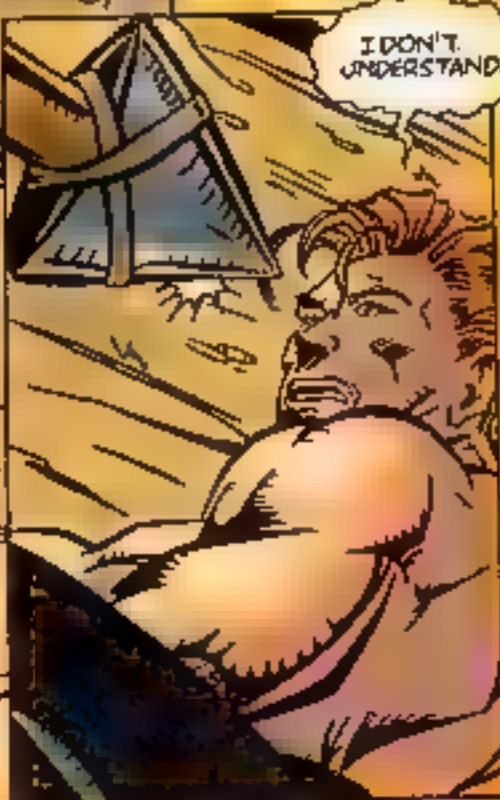
YOU WILL
PAY FOR THIS
INDISCRETION
WITH YOUR
LIFE



HERE-
GIVE ME A
WEAPON.

HIS
SENTENCE
WILL BE CARRIED
OUT SWIFTLY
AND SURELY.

WAIT
DIDN'T.



I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.



AYEE!

I REALLY
DON'T THINK
THAT'S A GOOD
IDEA, AYNOS.

WHAT?
WHO
INTERFERES
WITH MY
RIGHTFUL
KILL?



YOU
KNOW, HONEY
YOU REMIND
ME OF SOME-
BODY. I JUST
CAN'T PLACE
THE FACE.

BY THE
WAY, MY NAME'S
SONYA
BLADE.



I DON'T
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE.
INTERLOPER.

BUT
YOU SHALL
PAY FOR
YOUR RASH
ACTIONS.

IF YOU
THINK YOU
CAN COLLECT
ON THAT
THREAT...

THEN
JUST BRING
IT ON
SISTER.

YOU SHALL
REGRET
EVER STEPPING
FOOT IN MY
VILLAGE.

LET'S SEE
IF YOU CAN
FIGHT AS WELL
AS YOU CAN
TALK

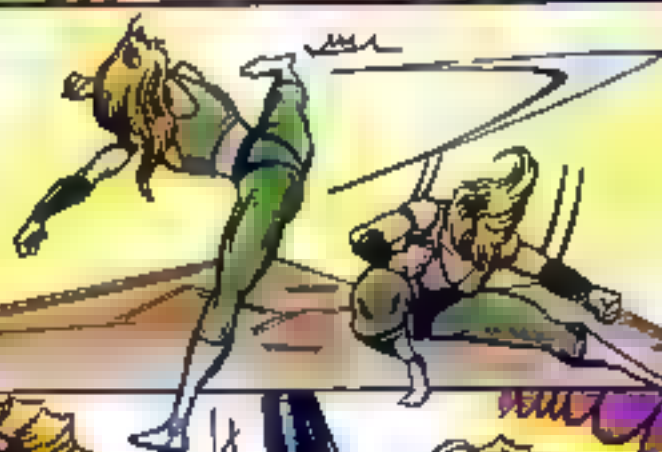
GO
GET 'ER,
SONYA,
WHICHEVER
ONE YOU ARE

YOU
COULD ASK
THE VILLAGE'S
FORMER
CHIEFTAIN IF I
CAN FIGHT

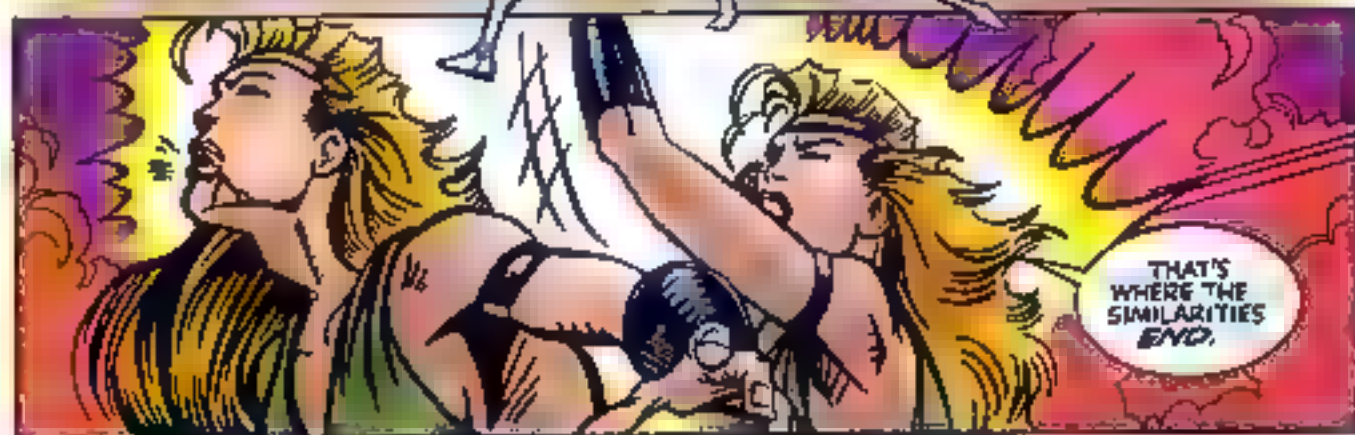
THAT
IS IF SHE
WERE STILL
ALIVE



YOU
KNOW, YOU MAY
LOOK LIKE
ME



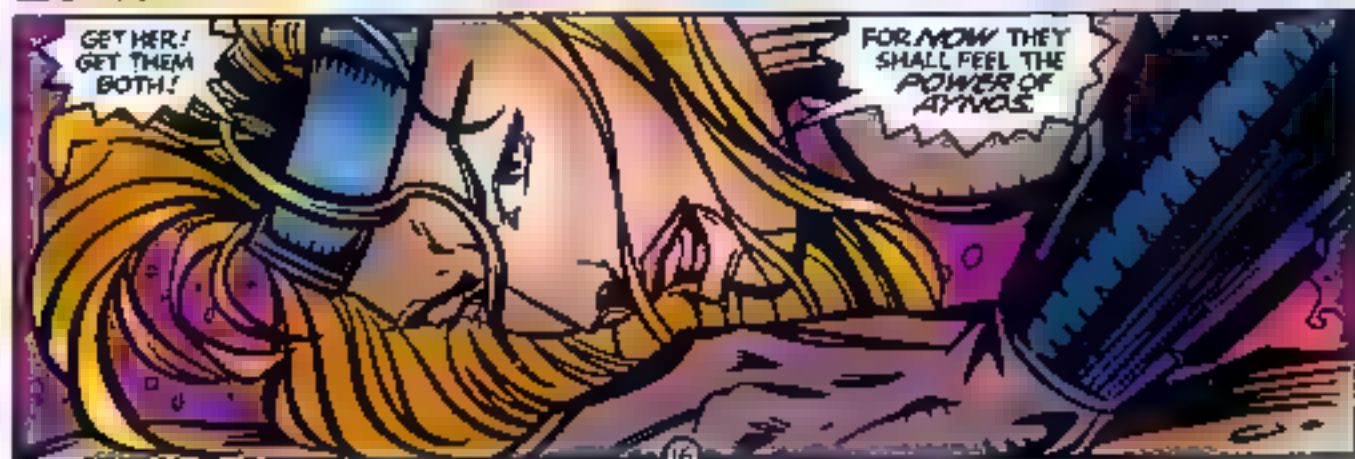
BUT ONE
THING'S FOR
CERTAIN..



THAT'S
WHERE THE
SIMILARITIES
END.



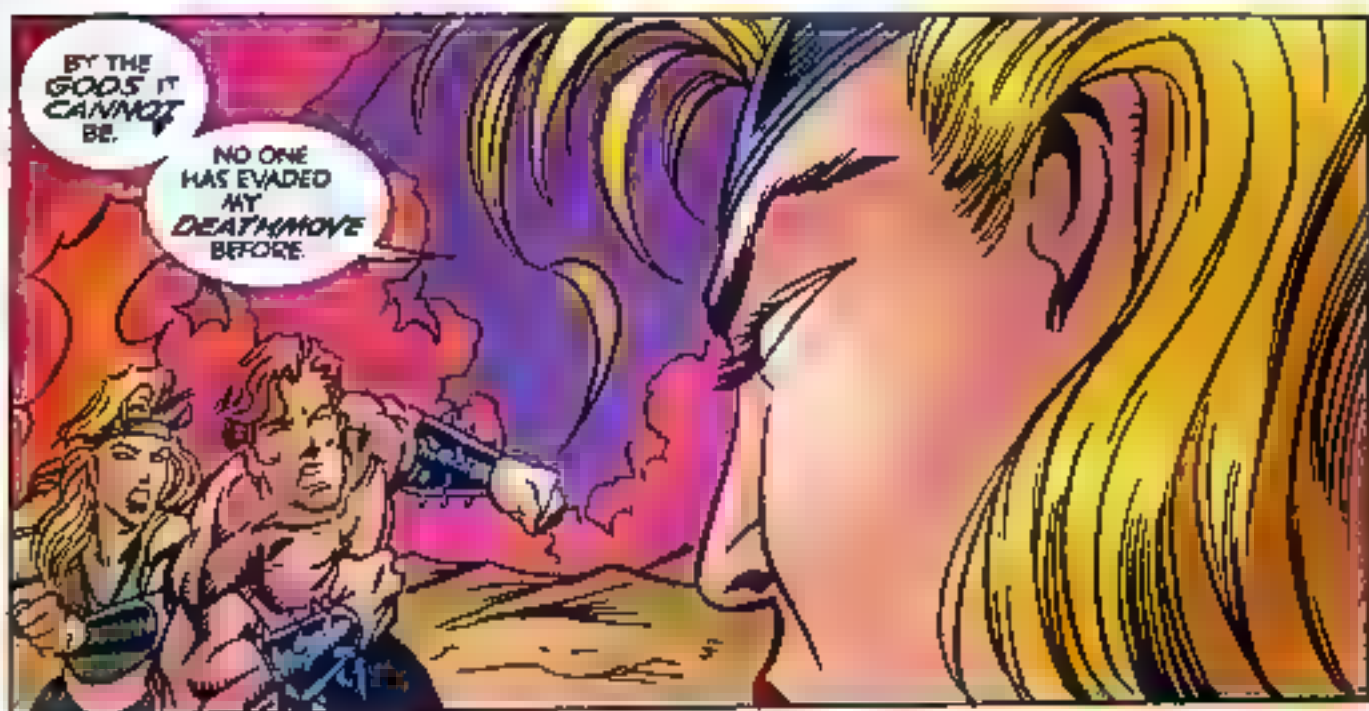
I'VE USED
MY ABILITIES TO
HELP MY PEOPLE.
YOU'VE USED
YOURS TO
RULE OVER
YOUR PEOPLE



GET HER!
GET THEM
BOTH!

FOR NOW THEY
SHALL FEEL THE
POWER OF
ATYLOS.





BY THE
GODS IT
CANNOT
BE.

NO ONE
HAS EVADED
MY
DEATH MOVE
BEFORE



TAKE MY
ADVICE, AYNOS,
AND STAY
DOWN.

I'D HATE
TO HAVE TO
REARRANGE
MY OWN
FACE.

AND ONE
MORE THING
BABE.

DON'T
EVEN THINK
ABOUT ASKING
ME FOR AN
AUTOGRAPH.

WHHHHUUUUUMPPPP

AYEEEEEE!!!

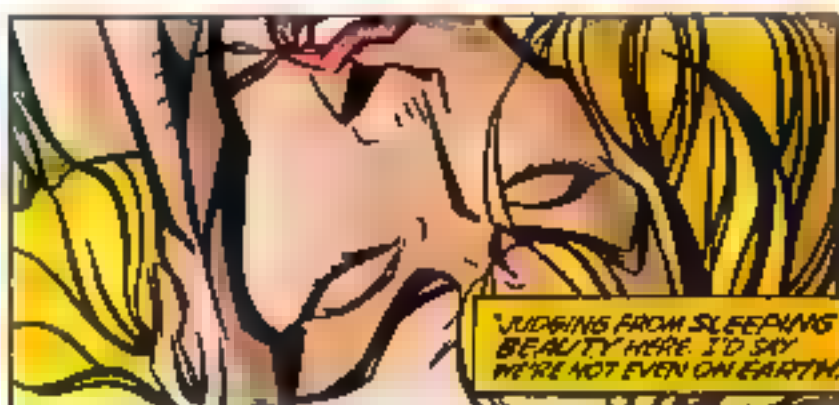


OUCH! THAT HAD TO HURT WHAT'S WITH THIS PLACE ANYWAY?

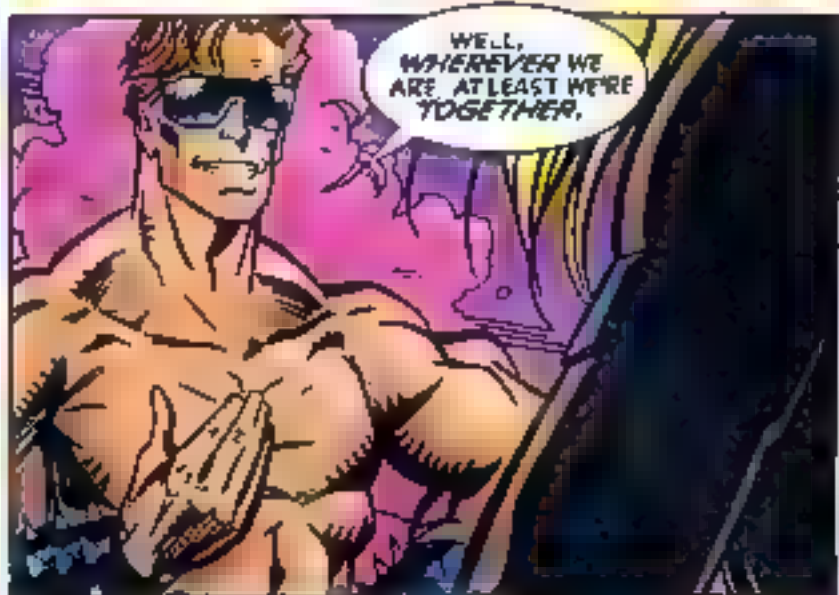
I DON'T REMEMBER TSUNG SAYING THERE WERE VILLAGES ON HIS ISLAND.

HE DIDN'T, JOHNNY AND THERE AREN'T

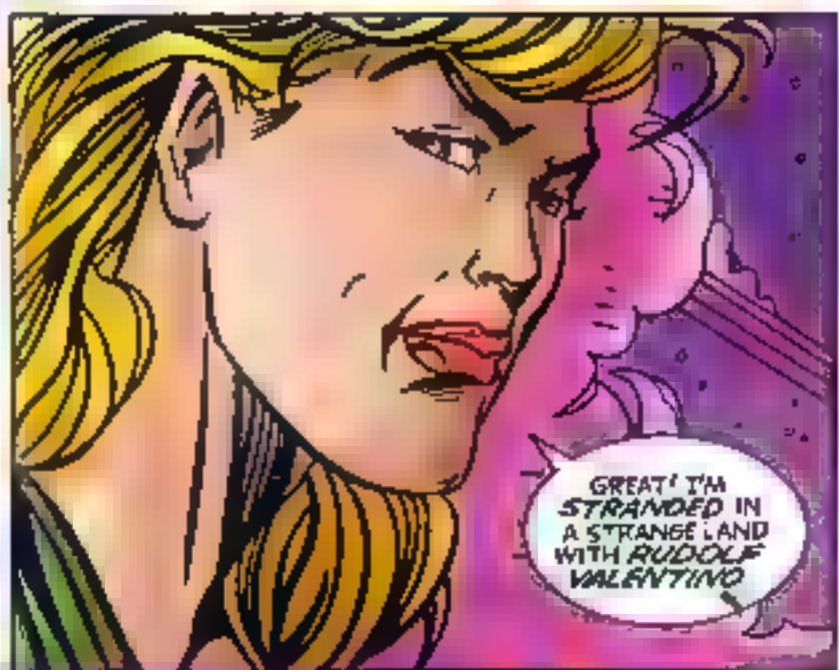
WHEREVER WE ARE, IT'S NOT SHANG TSUNG'S ISLAND.



"JUDGING FROM SLEEPING BEAUTY HERE I'D SAY WE'RE NOT EVEN ON EARTH."



WELL, WHEREVER WE ARE, AT LEAST WE'RE TOGETHER.



GREAT! I'M STRANDED IN A STRANGE LAND WITH RUDOLF VALENTINO



VALENTINO? NAH, I'M MORE THE HUMPHREY BOGART TYPE

AND I'D SAY THAT THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP.

MEANWHILE, JUST
INSIDE THE LIVING
FOREST OF OUTWORLD.

IT'S REAL
LUCKY WE
RAN INTO ONE
ANOTHER

AIN'T
THAT RIGHT,
BOY?

DID
YOL FIND
FIREWOOD,
KANOT?

I WENT
OUT LOOKING
FOR FIREWOOD.
DIDN'T I?

OF
COURSE I
FOUND IT, BOY
CATCH!

MY
NAME IS NOT
"BOY"

IT IS
LIU
KANG.

BOOM!

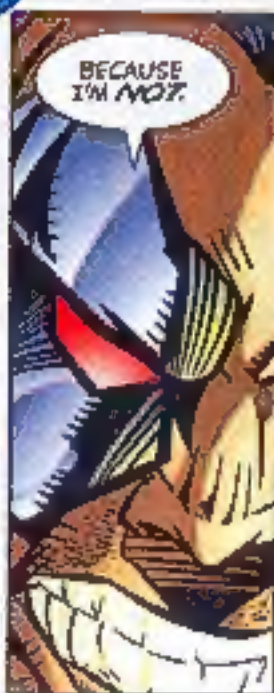


WOOO!
YOU
BROKE A
LOG.



SNNAAP

I HOPE
I'M NOT
SUPPOSED TO BE
IMPRESSED.



BECAUSE
I'M NOT.



WE HAVE
NO REASON
TO... WHAT IS
THIS?



THIS SYMBOL...
IT IS THE
TAO TE ZHAN.



IT IS
ONE OF THE
LAST BOOKS
OF POWER.



HOW DID ONE
OF THE BLACK
DRAGON COME TO
POSSESS IT?

IT
SHOULD BE...
HEEETYY...

KEEP
YOUR FILTHY
HANDS OFF
THAT BOOK,
PIP-SQUEAK.

IT'S THE
PROPERTY OF
KANO.

IF THE
TAP TE
ZHAN IS THE
PROPERTY OF
ANYONE...

...IT IS
THE TEMPLE
OF THE ORDER
OF LIGHT FROM
WHERE IT WAS
STOLEN.

WHHHAAPPP

UHHHHH!!!

I DO NOT
KNOW HOW
THIS CAME
INTO YOUR
HANDS,
KANG.

BUT
LIU KANG
WILL NOT TAKE
IT FROM YOU
BY FORCE.

IT DON'T
MATTER MUCH,
KID. I CAN'T
GET IT OPEN
FAST THE FIRST
PAGE.

ALL IT HAS
HERE IS A RIDDLE!
"YOU MAY SWALLOW
ME, BUT I MAY
SWALLOW
YOU."

I KNOW
THE ANSWER
TO THAT! IT'S
WATER.



YOW!
LOOK AT
THAT!



IT'S
OPENING...
THE NEXT
SECTION IS
OPENING.

BUT WHO
OPENED THE
BOOK IN THE
FIRST PLACE?

THE MOST
POWERFUL SPELL
IS THE ONE THAT
LOCKS THE BOOK
AND PREVENTS IT
FROM EVER BEING
OPENED.



I DON'T
KNOW, BUT LET'S
SEE IF WE CAN GET
THROUGH SOME MORE
OF IT. MAYBE WE
CAN SOLVE THE
WHOLE THING.

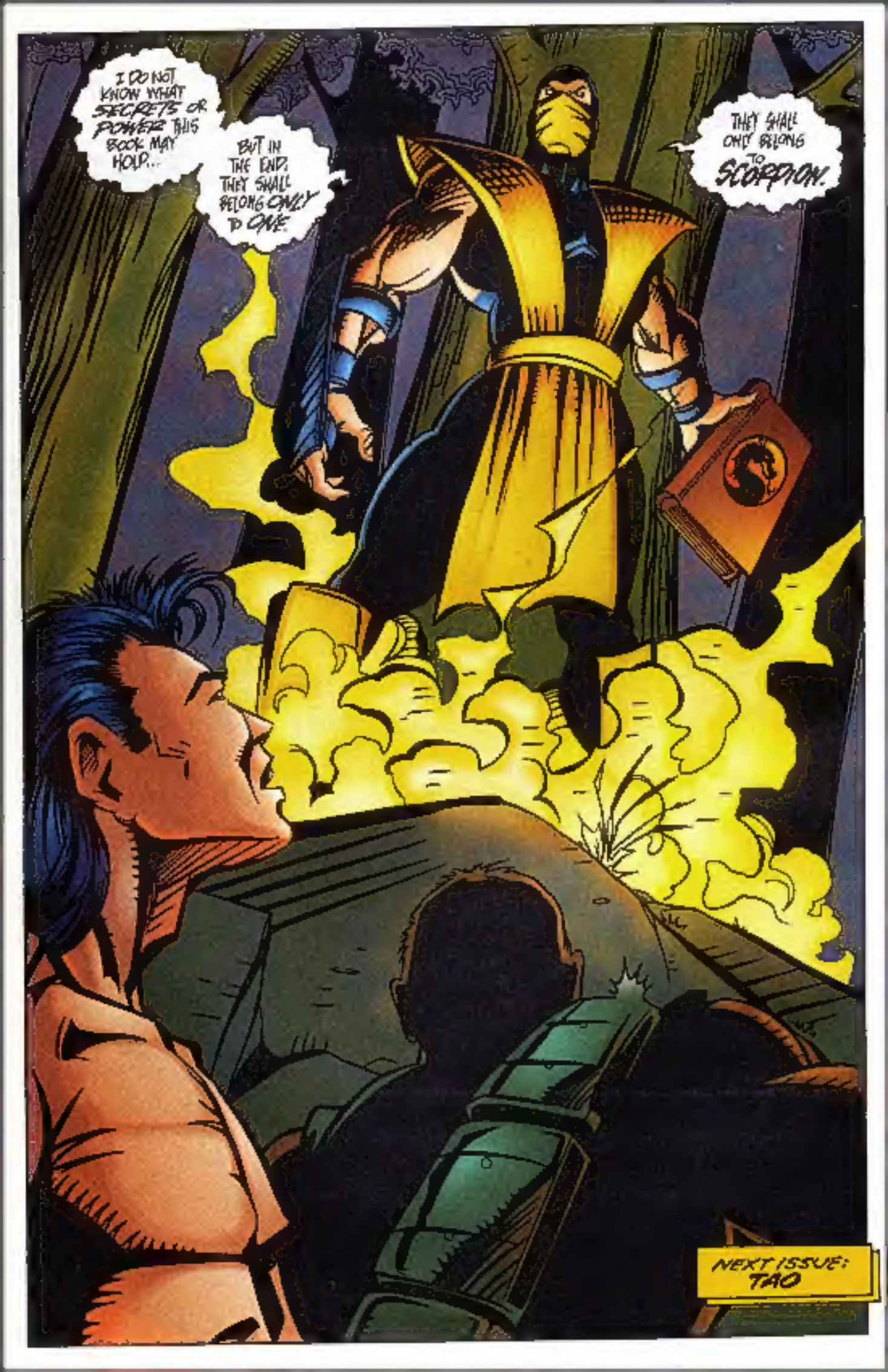
FOOL!
I'LL LET THIS
LITTLE THWED
DO THE HEAVY
LIFTING...

...BUT
THE FINAL
PRIZE WILL
BELONG TO
KANO.

MAYBE
YOU CAN, AND
THEN AGAIN,
MAYBE YOU
CANNOT.

NOW,
GET OVER
HERE!





I DO NOT
KNOW WHAT
SECRETS OR
POWER THIS
BOOK MAY
HOLD...

BUT IN
THE END,
THEY SHALL
BELONG ONLY
TO ONE.

THEY SHALL
ONLY BELONG
TO
SCORPION.

NEXT ISSUE:
TAO